

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

May/June 2004

## Governor's Message

### Earth Day Every Day in NH

To those of us who live and work in the Granite State, it was little surprise that New Hampshire recently received this year's "Most Livable State Award" by Morgan Quitno Press. New Hampshire is known for its natural resources – our mountains, forests, clean lakes and rivers. Just as important, however, is the intensity with which we in New Hampshire defend and preserve these resources from pollution and degradation.

When we celebrated Earth Day on April 22, it meant more than simply recognizing that our air, water and land is cleaner and more protected since the first Earth Day in 1970. Earth Day is a state of mind that encourages continuous environmental stewardship by individuals, groups and governments. I encourage everyone to embrace and apply this same dedication and innovation to the environmental challenges of today and tomorrow.



Governor Benson

To recognize businesses and organizations that meet these challenges, the New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Program (NHPPP) coordinates the annual Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention. I invite those groups that have successfully reduced or eliminated the use or generation of waste, reduced water usage, conserved energy, or created an environmental management system to apply for this award. The application deadline is June 22, and the awards will be presented at the P2 Conference on September 21. For more information please call NHPPP at 1-800-273-9649 or online at [www.des.nh.gov/nhppp](http://www.des.nh.gov/nhppp). Let's think Earth Day every day.

Craig R. Benson, Governor

## Efforts to increase use of alternative fuels gain momentum statewide

### ***Cranmore Mountain Resort and Rymes Oil announce biodiesel "firsts" in NH***

Biodiesel, a renewable, non-toxic biodegradable replacement for petroleum diesel, is gaining acceptance as a viable alternative fuel option in New Hampshire. DES and the Granite State Clean Cities

Biodiesel,  
*continued on page 2*



Congressman Jeb Bradley, Asst. Commissioner Mike Walls, and Cranmore GM Ted Austin standing in front of the snow cats fueled by biodiesel.

## Commissioner's Column

### Guarding our groundwater

Groundwater is an important part of the systems that support the natural environment, our economy, and our very lives. Half of all commercial and industrial water users rely on groundwater sources. Groundwater is also the primary source of drinking water for 60 percent of New Hampshire residents. For these reasons alone, we should all appreciate this abundant resource and take responsibility and steps toward protecting it.

For the 450,000 New Hampshire residents who use private wells, springtime is a good time to do a three-part well check-up: test the well water, check the well's condition, and review activities in the vicinity of the well. Although groundwater quality in New Hampshire is generally good,

Groundwater, *continued on page 2*

## Biodiesel, *continued from page 1*

Coalition, a public/private partnership of 50 stakeholders statewide dedicated to increasing the use of alternative fuels in the state of New Hampshire, have recently orchestrated two significant biodiesel "firsts" in the state. This winter, Cranmore Mountain Resort switched to biodiesel to power all of its snow grooming machines – the first Eastern winter resort to adopt this alternative fuel. And in April, Rymes Propane and Oils, Inc. established the first mass distribution system for biodiesel fuel in the state.

Biodiesel reduces visible emissions tremendously, providing cleaner air. It can be made from plant and animal sources, from soy oil to grease, and reduces greenhouse emissions. Biodiesel has a higher lubricity than

old-fashioned diesel, improving operation cleanliness resulting in less wear and tear on motor vehicles.

DES Assistant Commissioner Mike Walls said at the Cranmore press event, "Biodiesel is a great alternative to petroleum diesel for use in existing heavy duty diesel engines. It has similar horsepower, torque, and energy content compared to petroleum diesel. However, it is a much cleaner burning fuel that is renewable, non-toxic and biodegradable."

"Cranmore is passionate about taking measures to help the environment," said Ted Austin, general manager for the resort. "Biodiesel is not only a cleaner fuel, providing a healthier atmosphere for our guests and employees, but also, it increases the efficiency of our grooming machines resulting in better conditions for our winter devotees."

Rymes Propane and Oils, Inc. recently received its first railcar shipment of pure biodiesel (B100), direct from a mid-western manufacturer to its new storage facility in North Stratford. Rymes will sell the biodiesel wholesale from the bulk terminal and in a 20 percent blend with petroleum diesel (B20) at five retail fueling stations located in Antrim, Peterborough, Keene, Greenfield and Loudon. This local source of biodiesel will help ensure a steady supply of the cleaner-burning fuel in New Hampshire and could lead to a reduction in the price of biodiesel and biodiesel blends in the region. "Part of Rymes's goal is to be a community leader in providing environmentally safe products. We are proud to be the first petroleum distributor in New Hampshire to be taking this important step toward a cleaner environment and domestic fuel independence," said John Rymes of Rymes Propane and Oils, Inc.

For more information about alternative fuels and the Granite State Clean Cities Coalition, please contact Becky Ohler, DES Air Resources Division, at (603) 271-6749. ■

## Groundwater, *continued from page 1*

many private wells have naturally-occurring contaminants, such as arsenic and radon, at levels associated with elevated health risks. A smaller percentage of wells have contaminants resulting from human activity, such as the gasoline additive MtBE. Testing is available through private companies and at the DES laboratory. Based on the test results, both sources can provide information about treatment options.

To help keep a drinking water well free from human-caused contaminants, DES recommends keeping hazardous chemicals such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides and motor oil away from the well, and maintaining a "clean zone" of at least 75 feet (more for public wells) between the well and any kennels or livestock operations.



Every New Hampshire community should have a vigorous local groundwater protection program. Both regulatory and non-regulatory efforts by planning boards, conservation commissions, health officers, and groundwater protection committees are the key to keeping groundwater clean. Public education is an essential component of any local groundwater protection program.

State and federal programs go a long way in protecting groundwater, but local land use decisions are just as important, and when it comes to private wells, the homeowner needs to take primary responsibility.

For more information about private well testing, well checkups, groundwater education, and local groundwater protection, contact DES at (603) 271-3139 or [www.des.state.nh.us/ngwaw](http://www.des.state.nh.us/ngwaw). ■

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

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## DES laboratory enters new phase of construction

Parts of the laboratory were able to move to the newly constructed wing in early March! Reconstruction of the original lab wing has already begun and the major demolition work will begin shortly. Work in the area will take place in two phases, with construction expected to last for another year. As work progresses, lab staff and their instruments will be relocated to one or more temporary areas as their new workstations are prepared.

When the construction is completed, the lab will be able to offer its clients improved services from its modern facility! ■



*The new chemistry lab used for preparing samples for organics analyses, just prior to the first moves from the old lab wing.*



### **"Ride Free – Breathe Free"** service offered again **Free public bus rides on** **Air Quality Action Days!**

"Ride Free – Breathe Free" is a cooperative effort of the New Hampshire public bus companies and the state departments of Environmental Services and Transportation. Using public transportation on an air quality action day means less vehicles on the road and less air pollution from those vehicles! And it's a free ride! Call the 24-hour, toll-free Air Quality Info Line at 1-800-935-SMOG, or go to [www.airquality.nh.gov](http://www.airquality.nh.gov) for more information.

**Take the Bus. The Ride's on Us!**

## NH auto recyclers earn environmental recognition

At a recent meeting of the Auto & Truck Recyclers Association of New Hampshire (ATRA), DES commended the association's leadership for helping the Department to promote good environmental business practices at auto salvage yards throughout the state. DES presented plaques of appreciation to ATRA President Jeff Kantor and Vice President/Treasurer Bob Phelps, and thanked the entire membership for working hard to make auto recycling a cleaner industry.

Due to the work performed by auto salvage yard operators, motor vehicles are the premier recycled consumer product in this country. By recycling vehicles for used parts and scrap material, salvage yards make a significant contribution to conserving natural resources and reducing the demand for landfill capacity. DES, working in cooperation with the ATRA, established the "N.H. Green Yards Program" to help auto recyclers improve environmental practices through education, compliance assistance, and compliance certification.

"The success of the N.H. Green Yards Program largely depends on the good working relationship we have with ATRA. The Association has been instrumental in helping us better understand the needs and limitations of the auto recycling industry," said Pamela Sprague, manager of the N.H. Green Yards Program. "With ATRA's help, we have designed the N.H. Green Yards Program around those needs and limitations. Messrs. Kantor and Phelps are leading the way to build environmental stewardship and pride among New Hampshire auto salvage yard operators."

Among its many pollution prevention initiatives, ATRA is currently promoting a voluntary effort to remove and properly dispose of mercury-containing light switches, found in some vehicle hood and trunk lids. DES is arranging for the proper disposal of the switches using federal grant money. Even though this voluntary effort is only a few months old, over two pounds of mercury from nearly a thousand switches have been collected already. This is significant, since it only takes a few drops of mercury to cause real problems.



*NH Green Yards promotes the voluntary effort to remove and properly dispose of mercury-containing light switches found in hood and trunk lids.*

For more information about auto recycling and the N.H. Green Yards program, contact Pam Sprague at (603) 271-2938 or [nhgreennyards@des.state.nh.us](mailto:nhgreennyards@des.state.nh.us). ■



## Sen. Gregg announces \$1.09 million to fight milfoil statewide

Through the efforts of U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, New Hampshire will receive \$1.09 million in federal funding to stem the spread of milfoil in the state. DES will receive \$1 million to identify how milfoil grows under various lake conditions; to test newly developed herbicides; to examine if native plant species can affect milfoil's growth; and to



*Flower stalk of exotic variable milfoil.*

develop educational material designed to increase awareness on the dangers of milfoil. The Lakes Association will receive \$90,000 to expand its milfoil "Lake Host" program from 38 to 55 sites across New Hampshire. The program works to encourage boaters to take steps to prevent the spread of milfoil.

Senator Gregg was able to include funding for the milfoil initiatives through his position as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"Milfoil is not a problem that if left unchecked will correct itself," Senator Gregg noted. "Invasive weeds like milfoil have the potential to seriously damage the health of our lakes and that is why programs like the ones being undertaken by DES and the Lakes Association are so critical. The initiatives receiving federal funding are significant because they work at the problem from all sides – starting with the immediate concern of halting the spread of milfoil from lake to lake by educating boaters at numerous boat launches while at the same time trying to improve the health of the lakes already affected."

"Senator Gregg is to be commended for obtaining this research funding," DES Commissioner Michael Nolin stated. "This is further evidence of his understanding of the threat that milfoil and other exotic species present not only to the environmental health of our lakes and ponds, but to our state's economy. This grant will provide invaluable research and knowledge on how to address the infestation of exotic species, especially variable milfoil, which has caused declines in the aesthetic, economic, recreational, and wildlife values of our state's waterbodies."

Nancy Christie, President of the New Hampshire Lakes Association, expressed her group's appreciation to the Senator for his continued efforts on behalf of the state's lakes and ponds. "The \$90,000 for the Lake Host program will leverage an equal amount in state funds, to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic weeds at 60 public boat launch sites this summer," Christie said. "The \$1 million for DES will help them learn more about the ecology of invasive milfoil and effective treatment methods to better control it. Together, these two grants will go a long way toward protecting the public's enjoyment of New Hampshire's beautiful lakes and ponds." ■

## 1 Million Gallons of Used Oil Collected In NH

One hundred seventy-two New Hampshire communities have collectively reached an impressive milestone: one million gallons of used motor oil has been collected from residents and diverted from improper disposal in the last ten years. Current estimates suggest that the cost to clean up sites contaminated with the same volume of used oil, if dumped on the ground, would be about \$125 million!

The DES Used Oil Grant Program recently recorded the one millionth gallon of "Do-It-Yourself" (DIY) used oil collected by grant-assisted communities. The grant program was established in 1994 and provides a maximum of \$2,500 in grant funds per year to political subdivisions and some private entities to establish, improve, or promote used oil collection centers. In this way, household DIYers servicing their own vehicles have convenient outlets to recycle their used automotive oil. With grant assistance, the used oil is collected from those who often have the most difficulty recycling it, thereby protecting groundwater and other resources from possible improper disposal and subsequent contamination.

"When used oil is collected for recycling, we remove a potential environmental hazard to our groundwater and other sensitive resources. Springtime is the ideal time to clean out your garage of all your used oil for disposal at one of these convenient outlets," noted Commissioner Nolin.

To date, 136 collection centers serving 172 communities have received 205 grants from the program. The recipients, in turn, have devoted their time, energy, and additional funds to operate these collection centers and provide this valuable service to their residents.

For information on how DES grants can be used to improve used oil collection in your community, call the DES Used Oil Program at 1-888-TAKEOIL (825-3645). ■



## Susan Carlson joins Senior Leadership Team

The Governor and Council recently approved Commissioner Nolin's request to hire a Chief Operating Officer. Susan Carlson was nominated and confirmed to fill the COO position and began work on March 15.

Susan brings 25 years of experience in state government and auditing to the department. She is coming to DES from the New Hampshire Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, where she began working in 1978 and has served as the audit supervisor since 1986. As the COO, her role will be to ensure that DES has a strong administration group that provides the accounting, personnel and facilities support needed for the department to operate efficiently and effectively.

"I hope my experience with the State will provide a valuable resource to all and I look forward to working with everyone," noted Susan. The department organization under Susan as the COO will include the Human Resources, Administrative Services, and the planning units of DES. When asked to share something about herself, she commented, "First and foremost I am a Red Sox fan, which means I am an optimist who suffers disappointment well and never gives up the dream." Well "Cowboy Up" Susan, baseball season is here again and welcome to DES! ■



Susan Carlson

## DES signs streamlined regulatory agreements with NH printers

*Agreements are part of EPA pilot program (PrintSTEP) to create an alternative environmental regulatory system tailored to the printing industry.*

DES Commissioner Mike Nolin recently signed agreements with Cummings Press of Hooksett, Moore Wallace of Manchester, and Upper Valley Press of North Haverhill to participate in a unique voluntary pilot program designed to streamline the regulatory and permitting processes for their businesses. The Printers Simplified Total Environmental Partnership (PrintSTEP) allows printers to address air, water and hazardous waste permitting and regulations all at once through a single notification or agreement.

New Hampshire is one of three states selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct this innovative pilot program. Participating printers with the least environmental impact qualify for a simple PrintSTEP notification process; printers with greater environmental impact sign a comprehensive PrintSTEP agreement. Besides the agreements signed today with the three companies, DES has also arranged simple notification processes with 57 smaller printers in the state.



A flexographic press.

"The goal of PrintSTEP is to help the printing industry achieve cleaner, cheaper and smarter environmental protection through the creation of a simple regulatory framework," noted Commissioner Nolin. "PrintSTEP demonstrates that effective and efficient government can occur without any reduction in the protection of our environment. By minimizing and eliminating duplicative efforts, the end result of a healthy environment can occur at less cost to the state and to businesses."

Jim LaPoint of Moore Wallace, Inc. added, "We are excited to be participating in PrintSTEP, and appreciate the state's effort to work with us to reduce repetitive government reporting that achieves nothing for the health of the environment but burdens our business with added paperwork."

PrintSTEP is being implemented through the DES Small Business Technical Assistance Program (DES SBTAP). For further information, contact DES SBTAP Ombudsman, Rudy Cartier at (603) 271-1379. ■



**Formal agreement signed with El Salvador.** UNH President Ann Weaver Hart signs the two memoranda of agreement, which pave the way for further collaboration with El Salvador's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the University of El Salvador in the areas of pollution prevention, water resources and hazardous materials handling. Pictured with her is DES Waste Management Division Director Tony Giunta (second row, far left), who traveled to El Salvador in the fall under auspices of the National Guard's State Partnership Program. (Photo courtesy of UNH Photographic Services.)

## EPA, DES, City & Congressional officials tour former tannery

**D**uring a recent tour of the former Allied Leather Tannery in Penacook Village, EPA Regional Administrator Robert Varney and DES Assistant Commissioner Mike Walls commended the City of Concord on the their efforts to redevelop the former tannery complex into an economically viable development. Varney has made Brownfields a high priority in EPA Region I and plans to visit several Brownfields sites throughout New England in the coming months.

Constructed in 1846, the former tannery was initially used for the production of textiles. In 1941, the mill was converted into a leather tannery and has been vacant since 1987. After completing environmental and structural assessments, the City purchased the property in August 2003. That Fall,

cleanup of the site commenced with the removal of 35 containers of hazardous wastes, closure of two underground chromium storage tanks and the removal of six inactive electrical transformers containing PCBs. Currently, asbestos abatement is being conducted.

"Our partnership with the City of Concord helps to foster the redevelopment of sites like these. The Department's role is to assist the City in completing the necessary environmental assessments that are required to move the property forward toward redevelopment," said DES Assistant Commissioner Walls.

The City of Concord held a community-visioning charrette in March 2004 to solicit public input regarding potential redevelopment plans for the prop-



*DES Assistant Commissioner (with flashlight) shows EPA Regional Administrator (center) the inside of the Allied Tannery in Penacook. Also in the photo (left to right) Matt Lahey, liaison for Senator Gregg and Ken Lurvey, Concord Business Development Coordinator.*

erty. This summer, request for proposals will be accepted to redevelop the property into a showcase landmark for the village of Penacook. ■

## Five long-time DES staffers retire *Four are from the Water Division*

**D**ES has always been fortunate to have exceedingly dedicated employees, and it is particularly sad when long-term employees retire and leave us bereft of their substantial "institutional knowledge" and daily camaraderie. The following people have retired from DES in recent months.

**Randy Monti**, Assistant Chief Engineer-Administrator of DES's Winnepesaukee River Basin Program, came to the Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission's (WSPCC; DES's predecessor) drinking water program in 1977 from a consulting firm. In 1979, he transferred from the Water Supply Division to WSPCC Design Review Division. From 1982 until his retirement, he was the administrator of the vast Winnepesaukee River Basin Program.

**George B. McMennamin, P.E.**, environmental program manager in the Wastewater Engineering Bureau, managed the State Revolving Fund Loan Program (SRF) for wastewater projects and landfill closures from January 1994 until his retirement. During his tenure, he was responsible for the issuance of \$285 million in low interest loans, which resulted in substantial environmental and economic benefits to communities across the state.

**Jake Parent, P.E.**, a Manchester native, began his state

career with the N.H. Department of Public Works and Highways in 1964. He then joined the WSPCC in 1971, and stayed in wastewater engineering throughout his career with DES/WSPCC. He retired with a total of 39 years in State service.

**Ray Cushman, P.E.** worked briefly for the California Department of Water Resources before joining the N.H. Department of Public Works and Highways in 1968. In 1970, he transferred to the WSPCC. Ray retired with 36 years total of State service; 34 years of which were with DES/WSPCC.

Ray and Jake spent their DES careers in construction management of water pollution control projects. The two of them oversaw the construction of nearly every major municipal sewerage and landfill project in the state. Their contributions to the state's pollution control effort were invaluable, and their institutional knowledge will be difficult to replace.

**Jane L. Maheu**, of the Human Resources office, was hired with the Office of State Planning in August 1988, and then transferred to the Public Utilities Commission in September 1994. She was promoted to DES as Payroll Officer I in April 1995, where she served until her retirement. Jane had an outstanding work ethic, ready smile and was always willing to go the extra mile to help employees.

To each we say: May you enjoy your hard-earned bonus years and remember fondly your years with us! ■



## Compliance measures, part II: If not beans, what?



by Gretchen Rule, Administrator, DES  
Legal Unit

In “Compliance Measures: Count Beans or Bust,” [*Environmental News*, November/December 2003] the problems inherent in measuring agency performance based only on “bean counts” (*i.e.*, agency “outputs” such as how many inspections were done and how many enforcement actions were taken) were discussed. Identifying problems is only the start, however: if we want to stop relying on bean counts as the primary indicator of agency performance, what else can we measure?

One answer is to measure the quality of the environment. We can sample air and water and observe land use and its impacts on natural resources such as wildlife, habitat, and open spaces, and from the data we collect we can reach conclusions about whether the environment is improving. While such measures (“environmental indicators”) are important and helpful, using them as the sole measure of agency performance is as problematic as measuring agency performance based solely on inspection and

enforcement beans. There are too many variables to be able to say with any confidence that if the environment is improving, the agency must be doing a good job, and if the environment is not improving, the agency is not doing a good job. In particular, economic conditions that cause facilities to increase or decrease production will have as much (or more) of an impact on the environment than agency interventions.

Another answer is to look at how well the regulated community (entities and individuals subject to regulation) is doing complying with applicable requirements. A statistically-valid “compliance rate” would be more reflective of an agency’s overall efforts – *i.e.*, not just inspections and enforcement, but education/outreach and compliance assistance as well. While many variables still would be in the mix (including economic conditions, *etc.*), more of them would be within the agency’s control. Compliance rates can thus be said to measure “outcomes” – effects or results of agency actions – rather than outputs.

Many state environmental agencies report some form of “compliance rate” information. As noted in the previous article, though, most of the time we do not know what the number is based on. To be sufficiently credible to allow us to reduce our dependence on bean counts, a compliance rate must be based on a consistently-applied evaluation of a statistically-significant population of the regulated community.

In the 1990s, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) developed the “Environmental Results Program” (ERP). Essentially, the ERP was an effort to measure – and ultimately improve – the compliance of a single sector or type of com-

mmercial enterprise across all applicable requirements (air, water, waste). For each sector, DEP prepared a workbook and self-evaluation checklist as well as “Environmental Business Practice Indicators” (EBPIs). Each year, each facility covered by the ERP is required to self-certify compliance with applicable requirements, which includes reporting on the EBPIs. DEP compiles and reports the EBPIs on a periodic basis. From the results, DEP can determine whether compliance is improving or whether assistance may be needed in a particular area. Because all regulated facilities must report, the resulting compliance rates are presumed to be statistically valid. DEP audits the results to ensure program integrity, and has demonstrated that the self-reported results are sufficiently accurate to warrant reliance on the data.

Because of the need to develop a workbook and to audit results, ERP-type efforts are resource intensive. They thus typically are feasible only when resources can be diverted from an existing program (*e.g.*, permitting). In 2002, DES first implemented a process to determine a statistically-valid compliance rate for hazardous waste generators using minimal resources. A description of that effort and its results will follow in an upcoming issue. ■

## WWTFs recognized for excellence

The Henniker and North Conway wastewater treatment facilities were selected by EPA for New England Regional Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards. Henniker received its award in the small secondary plant category, and North Conway was cited in the non-discharging plant category.

At the same ceremony, the DES Wastewater Engineering Bureau was able to accept its 2003 EPA National Excellence Award, which had been announced last fall. ■



*Chris Simmers, Informational Technology Leader for DES, accepts a “Shirt Off Your Back” award on behalf of DES from Kim Nelson, EPA Chief Information Officer. The ceremony took place in March at Manchester Water Works.*

## VLAP readies for the '04 sampling season

The DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) had an extremely successful sampling season in 2003! Thanks to the efforts of more than 500 dedicated volunteers who sample 154 lakes, VLAP continues to achieve its annual goals. The data provides important information to help biologists assess lake health and make watershed management decisions to protect the quality of New Hampshire lakes. After almost 20 years, VLAP remains one of DES's most successful volunteer programs providing key information to lake associations that help protect New Hampshire lakes for generations of the future.

Both DES and the EPA understand the important role volunteers play in collecting quality data that can be used to conduct watershed management studies to eliminate non-point sources of pollution and address the quality of our nation's surface waters. DES remains dedicated to the continued success and improvement of VLAP.

Due to the program popularity and the unending dedication and commitment of the state's volunteer monitors, DES Commissioner Mike Nolin has committed federal funds to continue this outstanding program. Volunteers are now contacting DES to schedule the annual biologist site visit. Sample

analyses will be conducted by DES Limnology Center, the Laboratory Services Unit and by the



Sunapee Satellite Laboratory, located at Colby Sawyer College. The annual VLAP workshop is scheduled for May 22 and will be held at DES. For more information about the workshop, please call Jody Connor or Andrea LaMoreaux at (603) 271-3503. ■

## DES settles enforcement case with Mectrol Corp.

*Company agrees to pay fine and reduce air pollution*

DES recently reached a settlement with Mectrol Corporation for violations of the state's air pollution control rules. Under the terms of the settlement, Mectrol has agreed to pay an administrative fine of \$36,475 to the state's general fund and to purchase and retire emissions reduction credits representing 23 tons of smog-forming pollutants.

Mectrol manufactures steel and Kevlar reinforced timing belts and speed reducers at its facility located in Salem. Mectrol applies adhesives and extrudes or casts polyurethane onto steel or Kevlar cord that has been precoated with adhesive, a process that results in emissions to the ambient air.

On October 31, 2001, Mectrol self-reported to DES various areas of non-compliance. Specifically, Mectrol failed to apply for a State Permit to Operate, which was required because the facility's volatile organic compound (VOC) usage and emissions of regulated air pollutants exceeded applicable permit thresholds. In addition, Mectrol's potential emissions of methyl ethyl ketone, a listed hazardous air pollutant, exceeded the federal Clean Air Act Title V threshold of 10 tons for any single hazardous pollutant. Lastly, Mectrol reported that its manufacturing operation was subject to VOC "reasonably available control technology" requirements and that it had not complied with those requirements.

For further information, contact Pamela Monroe, DES Air Resources Division, at (603) 271-1370, or go to [www.des.nh.gov/press/press031204.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/press/press031204.htm) to read the complete press release announcing this enforcement action. ■



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